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GWM

RESOLUTION NO. 87 -2013

**EXPRESSING** City Council's support of Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource and Renewable Portfolio Standards and **URGING** the Ohio House of Representatives, the Ohio Senate, and Ohio's Governor to oppose Substitute Senate Bill 58.

WHEREAS, Ohio's current Energy Efficiency Resource Standard requires utilities to participate in energy efficiency programs that have been shown to reduce Ohio's energy consumption, encourage the development of energy efficiency technologies within Ohio, and create local jobs; and

WHEREAS, Ohio's current Renewable Portfolio Standard requires utilities to purchase or generate energy from renewable sources that have been shown to reduce Ohio's energy reliance on fossil fuels, encourage the development of renewable energy businesses in Ohio, and create local jobs; and

WHEREAS, these Standards were adopted with virtually unanimous approval of the Ohio General Assembly in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Substitute Senate Bill 58. (Sub. S.B. 58) proposes to significantly reduce and/or eliminate these energy efficiency and renewable energy standards; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati has embraced sustainability, renewable energy, and energy efficiency through a series of initiatives and actions over the past decade, including: the Green Cincinnati Plan; support for energy audits through the Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance; energy retrofits for city buildings; the purchase of 100 per cent renewable energy supply for the city's electric aggregation buying group; and the current effort to establish PACE financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in commercial buildings; and

WHEREAS, important energy efficiency investments have saved our City money and energy, and put local citizens to work; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency is an important way to save taxpayer money and strengthen the City of Cincinnati's bottom line, cutting energy waste from our budget; and

WHEREAS, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) has established that for every million dollars spent on energy efficiency, 21 jobs are created; for every million spent on traditional energy sources, only seven jobs are created; and

WHEREAS, the ACEEE estimates that energy efficiency programs across the country cost customers only 2.5 cents per kWh; while the cost of new coal generation resources with the appropriate transmission and distribution improvements cost 11 cents per kWh; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency results in local investment because it is focused on buildings, industrial operations, and homes within our cities meaning that dollars spent benefit the local economy; and

WHEREAS, an Ohio State University study, commissioned by Advanced Energy Economy Ohio Institute, estimates that if Sub. S.B. 58 were enacted, Ohioans would pay \$3.65 billion more on their electricity bills over the next 12 years; and

WHEREAS, rolling back or freezing Ohio's energy efficiency standard will increase energy costs for the City of Cincinnati, its citizens, and its businesses in a time of recovery from the worst recession since the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, Ohio is home to more than 400 companies that self-identify as advanced energy businesses and collectively employ over 25,000 Ohio residents, according to Advanced Energy Economy Ohio; and

WHEREAS, 25,410 Ohioans were employed across 22 industry segments in the advanced energy industry in 2010 – the most recent year for which data is available – equivalent to Ohio employment in the agriculture/forestry and mining categories combined; and

WHEREAS, Sub. S.B. 58 eliminates the requirement that a percentage of the required renewable energy be generated at facilities located in Ohio and permits this renewable energy to come from anywhere in the United States or even from foreign countries, thereby eliminating the need for any Ohio-made renewable power and the jobs tied to these projects; and

WHEREAS, rolling back of Ohio's Renewable Portfolio and Energy Efficiency Resource Standards will have significant impacts on Ohio's air quality, public health, economy, and jobs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

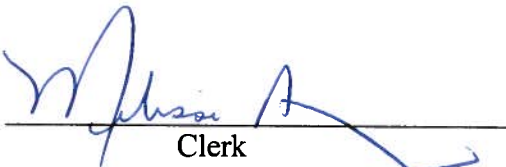
Section 1. That the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati express their support of Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource and Renewable Portfolio Standards and urges the Ohio House of Representatives, the Ohio Senate, and Ohio's Governor to oppose Substitute Senate Bill 58.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and copies sent to John Kasich, the Governor of the State of Ohio; William Batchelder, the Speaker of the House; Keith Faber, the President of the Senate; Peter Stautberg, Chair of the Ohio House Public Utilities Committee; William Seitz, the Chair of the Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee; all

members of the Ohio House Public Utilities Committee, and all members of the Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee.

Passed: October 9, 2013

  
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Mayor

Attest:   
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Clerk

Submitted by Vice Mayor Roxanne Qualls 